



Medical Marijuana Control Program Draft Rules

The State Medical Board of Ohio is tasked with developing rules that will regulate the issuance of certificates to physicians wishing to be able to recommend medical marijuana for their patients. The Medical Board is also responsible for establishing the procedure for adding conditions or diseases which may qualify patients for the state's Medical Marijuana Control Program.

The Physician Certificate to Recommend Medical Marijuana and Petition for Added Qualifying Condition rules will follow the standard rule development process. After receiving input from the Ohio Medical Marijuana Advisory Committee and approval from the Medical Board to file, the rules will be submitted to the Common Sense Initiative, then the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review.

The public has the opportunity to comment at several points throughout the rule development process. The first opportunity is December 15, 2016 through 5 p.m. on January 13, 2017. Visit medicalmarijuana.ohio.gov/rules to review the draft rules and for instructions on how to provide written comments.

New OARRS Report Tool

We are pleased to share with you a new feature in OARRS which will allow you to see which prescriptions were not checked. Now, when you run a "prescriber practice insight report" there will be a column indicating any prescriptions which were not checked. Prescribers must have an OARRS account with the correct DEA number attached in order to retrieve this report.

DEA Renewal Information

Starting January 2017, DEA will no longer send its second renewal notification by mail. Instead, an electronic reminder to renew will be sent to the email address associated with the DEA registration.

At this time, DEA will otherwise retain its current policy and procedures with respect to renewal and reinstatement of registration. This policy is as follows:

- If a renewal application is submitted in a timely manner prior to expiration, the registrant may continue operations, authorized by the registration, beyond the expiration date until final action is taken on the application.
- DEA allows the reinstatement of an expired registration for one calendar month after the expiration date. If the registration is not renewed within that calendar month, an application for a new DEA registration will be required.



- Regardless of whether a registration is reinstated within the calendar month after expiration, federal law prohibits the handling of controlled substances or List 1 chemicals for any period of time under an expired registration.

For more information, refer to the DEA website: <https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drugreg/>

***Physician Assistant Prescribing of Buprenorphine Products
for Office-Based Treatment of Opioid Addiction***

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently announced that physician assistants (PAs) can train and apply to become DATA-waiver practitioners.

PAs may take the eight-hour DATA-waiver course for treatment of opioid use disorder, designed by national experts, that physicians currently take. The course is offered for free by SAMHSA through the [Providers' Clinical Support System for Medication Assisted Treatment \(PCSS-MAT\)](#) .

For the additional 16 hours, SAMHSA will also offer the training for free through the PCSS-MAT once it has been developed. PAs who have completed the required training and seek to become DATA-waiver for up to 30 patients will be able to apply to do so beginning in early 2017. For more information on the upcoming launch of the application and SAMHSA-sponsored training opportunities, PAs may [sign up](#) for the Buprenorphine Waiver Management email list.

Beginning in January 2017. Buprenorphine products will be listed on the Ohio Physician Assistant Formulary as “may prescribe” for office-based treatment of opioid addiction.

Medical Board Rules Effective December 31, 2016

At its December meeting, the Medical Board adopted the following rules which go into effect on December 31, 2016.

Exposure-Prone Invasive Procedure Precautions:

- 4731-17-01 Definitions (related to invasive procedures)
- 4731-17-04 Disinfection and sterilization

Radiologist Assistants:

- 4774-1-01 Definitions (related to radiologist assistants)



Board Action Reports Available Online

The Medical Board's [Formal Action Report](#) is available on the Medical Board's website under the Publications tab (med.ohio.gov). The report includes summary descriptions of the disciplinary actions initiated and the sanctions imposed by the Medical Board at its monthly meeting. The reports also contain updated changes in probationary monitoring requirements, reinstatement of licenses following suspension, and status reports of disciplinary cases on appeal through the courts.

Board Elects 2017 Officers

The Medical Board elected the following members to serve as officers during calendar year 2017: President, Amol Soin, MD; Vice-President, Robert Giacalone; Secretary, Kim G. Rothermel, MD; and Supervising Member, Bruce Saferin, DPM.

Task Force Promotes Prescribing Program



Anahi Ortiz, MD, Chair of the Franklin County Opiate Crisis Task Force and Franklin County Coroner, reports that the Treatment Subcommittee of the Franklin County Opiate Crisis Task Force is committed to looking at educational opportunities for physicians on opiate prescribing. One excellent program the Task Force vetted is PCSS-O, Providers Clinical Support System for Opioid Therapies. This group has multiple free and low cost webinars on various aspects of substance use disorder for physicians. Additionally, the organization offers a free colleague support program.

“PCSS-O provides ongoing peer-to-peer colleague support aimed at improving providers’ confidence in treating opioid use disorder and pain management. The program is designed to assist providers in using evidence-based practices when prescribing opioids for chronic pain in their practices. The support program is available, at no cost to providers. Experts part of the PCSS-O colleague support program are a national network of trained providers with expertise in opioid addiction and pain management and skilled in clinical education. They provide support by telephone, email, or in-person if logistically possible.”

Please visit <http://pcss-o.org/> to learn more about their educational opportunities and colleague support program.